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NORTH CHINA ANIMAL EPIDEMIC NOW UNDER CONTROL

Pei-p'ing, 25 November (NCNA) -- The animal disease epidemic \sqrt{n} ame of disease not mentioned which has plagued some 20 hsiens in Hopeh, Pingyuan, Suiyuan, and Shansi provinces in North China since the beginning of autumn has been checked. Every precaution is being taken to prevent a renewed outbreak.

The epidemic spread rapidly. In six villages of Hsia-wa Hsien in Pingyuan Province, more than 400 animals came down with the disease simultaneously. In more than 30 villages of Ho-shun Hsien in Shansi Province, some 200 animals died from the disease.

The Shansi Provincial People's government organized four veterinary battalions and dispatched them to Chang-chih, Heng Hsien, and Hsing Hsien special districts to quarantine the affected areas and to administer preventive inoculations. The Hen-shui Animal-Disease Prevention Unit went into 41 villages surrounding the affected areas and adminstered preventive inoculations to 3,550 animals in 9 days. In Hsiu-wu Hsien of Pingyuan Province, more than 400 animals were discovered to be suffering from the disease. All recovered in a 2-week period after careful medical treatment.

According to an incomplete survey, about 1,800 animals recovered from the disease and some 75,000 received preventive inoculations in the affected areas covering about 20 hsiens. Deaths from the disease were not great except in some areas.

To prepare for any further outbreaks, veterinary stations were set up at T'ung Hsien, Hsing-t'ai Hsien, Ch'ang-li Hsien, and Pao-ting in Hopeh Province.

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